

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

ACDA-05 SAJ-01 SAM-01 EB-07 IO-10 EURE-00 OMB-01

AGR-05 AID-05 COME-00 FRB-03 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4518

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

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AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, PO, PL, UR

SUBJ: ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF STATE VISIT TO USSR, POLAND

REF: MOSCOW 14180, WARSAW 6478

1. FOLLOWING SUPPLEMENTS REFTELS AND PROVIDES LISBON PERSPECTIVE ON ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF RECENT VISIT: DURING THE SEPTEMBER 27-OCTOBER 4 STATE VISIT OF PORTUGUESE PRESIDENT COSTA GOMES TO POLAND AND THE USSR, ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL RELATIONS WERE A MAJOR TOPIC OF DISCUSSION. WHILE SOME MINOR ACCORDS AND CONTRACTS WERE SIGNED, PRELIMINARY PRESS REPORTS INDICATE THAT NO MAJOR ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE WAS OBTAINED BY PORTUGAL. MOST ISSUES OR POTENTIAL BUSINESS DEALS APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN PUT OFF FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION. BELOW ARE THE ITEMS WHICH HAVE BEEN PUBLICLY REPORTED.

2. POLAND -

A) A PORTUGUESE DELEGATION WILL GO TO POLAND IN OCTOBER TO DISCUSS CONTRACTS FOR THE REPAIR AND CONSTRUCTION OF POLISH SHIPS IN THE LISNAVE SHIPYARD. THE LEFTIST PRESS SPECULATED THAT THE ACCORD COULD INVOLVE \$280 MILLION FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF UP TO 70 SHIPS, FISHING BOATS AND BARGES TOTALING MORE THAN 400,000 TONS; HOWEVER, NO OFFICIAL DETAILS NOR SIGNED AGREEMENTS WERE FORTHCOMING.

B) TWO GOP DELEGATIONS WILL VISIT POLAND IN OCTOBER TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE CONTRACTS TO BUILD \$30 MILLION OF TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT IN PORTUGAL AND TO OBTAIN POLISH ASSISTANCE FOR THE PORTUGUESE FISHING INDUSTRY. THE PRESS SPECULATES THAT THE SAME DELEGATIONS MAY DISCUSS POLISH INTEREST IN BUILDING A SULFURIC ACID PLANT IN THE ALENTEJO, A SUGAR BEET PLANT IN NORTHERN PORTUGAL, AND IN SUPPLYING COAL.

C) THE MAY 1975 PORTUGAL/POLISH COMMERCIAL AGREEMENT WILL BE DISCUSSED BY THE BILATERAL MIXED COMMISSION IN NOVEMBER.

3. USSR -

A) A CONTRACT WAS SIGNED UNDER WHICH PORTUGAL WILL SUPPLY \$16 MILLION OF TOMATO CONCENTRATE TO THE USSR.

B) CONTRACTS FOR THE SALE OF 600 HECOLITERS OF WINE AND 500 TONS OF ALMONDS WERE DISCUSSED BUT NOT SIGNED.

C) ACCORDING TO THE FINAL COMMUNIQUE BOTH PARTIES WILL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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EXPAND AND DEEPEN ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL AND TECHNICAL/SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION ON A MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL, LONG-TERM, STABLE BASIS.

4. COMMENT: IF THESE PRELIMINARY PRESS REPORTS ARE CLOSE TO REALITY, COSTA GOMES WILL BE DISAPPOINTED AT THE USSR/POLISH RESPONSE TO GOP ECON NEEDS. THE POSSIBLE SALE OF WINE AND ALMONDS WOULD BE ONLY AN EXTENSION OF ALREADY CONCLUDED DEALS. AND, WITH REGARD TO THE WINE, THE GOP MINISTER OF EXTERNAL COMMERCE PUBLICLY STATED

THAT THE RUSSIAN PRICE OFFER WAS UNACCEPTABLE. THE USE OF LISNAVE FOR CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIR OF POLISH SHIPS HAS BEEN DISCUSSED FOR MONTHS AND AGREEMENT HAS STILL NOT BEEN REACHED.

5. WILL PROVIDE FURTHER DETAILS AFTER DISCUSSIONS WITH GOP OFFICIALS.

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